

I find in the "Daily Eagle" of Sept. 18th, an editorial recommendation of this effect:

"Let the friends of freedom call a State convention to organize a party of true Democracy, on the basis of Land Reform, River and Harbor Improvements, where the works are of national interest; and to call a State convention to impeach all officers by the People; Free Trade, Opposition to slave legislation, Divorce of Federal Government from all complicity of Slavery, and Opposition to the English Slave Constitution, all limits. Let the Convention meet at least a day as may be convenient, issue a declaration of principles, and name it the "True Democratic Party," and have it denounce all the Anti-Slavery men to hold similar organizations in their respective States, for the purpose of forming a national party, and issue a call for a National Democratic Convention embracing all who are willing to adopt such principles, to meet, say at Buffalo, Cincinnati, or Philadelphia, September or October."

With all deference to the source, whence this recommendation emanates, allow me to reply:

"Let us do our duty. It is not well to be

done organizing new parties. We have had already three successive organizations, three grand remodellings of the anti-slavery forces of this country. We have lost the confidence of large masses of men by the transient and shifting character of our arrangements. What is the matter with the present organization? Is it not extant in all the Free States? Has it not its presses, its conventions, its candidates, its voters?" is not an Abolitionist or Free Soil as distinct, and marked a creature in the natural history of politics as a whig, a tory, a democrat, or a socialist? Nay more, this very day, with all the arm of a venal press, tyrannical parties, and an apostate church against it, is not political Anti-Slavery the *True Thing* in this country? Did not its forums, its discussions, its convictions, its thunder-tomed denunciations upon all, but only among the masses of the people, but also among the magnates and leaders of the Slave Power and their compromising Northern accomplices? Has it not spared the distinction to the high place of the State to cease agitation, and made the redundant avenues of slavery, in its unblushing open right guaranteed by the constitution, the opportunity of giving slavery itself the deadlock it had long received? The National Era will have the date of "True Democracy" organized about next September or October, after which we will begin to consider about going on to begin to do something about it! This *True Democracy* has been organized for several years to my certain knowledge!

But why enlarge the scope of our action? Is truth so unpalatable that it must be sugar-coated over with popular *clap-trap*? Is freedom a spurious or light wit to be surreptitiously passed off upon the unwary among a whole handful of jingling reformers in agriculture, trade and tenures of offices? Free Trade, River and Harbor Improvement, responsibility of officers to the people, all excellent; but the man that would sink and drown in these measures, the greater question of the *abolition* of the people from chafedness and disbanding action for the sake of gaining votes for it, has had his ideas of comparison of objects, extremely confused. So far from being an insignificant question to be clubbed with others to eke out its importance, the question of human freedom is intrinsically the greatest that has ever employed the thought of man. Its remotest interests sink into ludicrous insignificances all mere questions of commerce and administration. Better there were no western rivers nor eastern harbors than that men whom God made free should by human tyranny be kept slaves. He was not considered, to be altogether demented even, who once said, "Let Justice die through the Heavens! *Fiat!*" The question of the restoration to human and political rights of one-eighth part of this American nation is sufficient to form the basis of a party. The fact of slavery alone, and its audacious encroachments, demand and will produce such a party. If we try not out against this hereditary, despotic, iniquitous, the very stones will do so. If we are false to this mission, [God will judge us to it.]

A popular movement, to be successful, need not embrace a variety of objects and purposes. It must have single and simple. Rather carried the reformation through upon a few simple lines. Clarkson and Wilberforce fought through British emancipation on the simple *one idea* of the iniquity of slaveholding. Cobbett and Bright overthrew the corn laws without embarrassing their movements with a mass of collateral reforms. The human mind must necessarily submit to the condition; "one thing at a time." Let us take things upon the order of their importance. I will gladly help at any practicable time to make *better, bolder, and brawier*, but in the name of Heaven's Justice let us try to make *men and women free first*.

The statement is to be done with those genuine lovers of freedom, who from education or prudential may not be able to swallow the whole bill of fare? I suppose the maxim, *he that is guilty in one is guilty in all*, will be applied, and all such behind-the-age people will be voted out of the new party as *true despots*, or left to serve the cause as they are *on their own hook*. A man for instance, who, though very active in *drawing* victims out of the prison houses of slavery, was cool in the master of *driving* slaves out of western rivers, must be posted as a pretender. I have lately read the masterly speech of Horace Mann, on the Fugitive Slave Law, wherein that great man most indignantly mourns over the defeat of the tariff. I have no personal sympathy for this affliction, but cannot help inquiring whether he and such as he are to have the odious name of *Pederalists* chalked upon their backs and drummed out of the Anti-Slavery host, because not sound on the question of *Free Trade*.

But I object most of all to our editor's last recommendation to assume the name of *Democrat*, and for that two reasons. The first is, because it is not honest, the second, because it is not in good taste. The term *Democrat* in this country, for colloquial and statistical purposes, has been used for many years, and suffices very well, to denote a body of men differing from Abolitionists, &c., on the value of the *slave* to creditable to their letters. The opposition to "assume" these names strikes me morally about the same as a proposition to assume their coats, or their hats, or their boots. I take it that the prohibition not to covet any thing that is his neighbour's extends in its spirit far as to prohibit us from stealing it.

But my principal objection to the proposed assumption is the bad taste of it. Language, ornate and printed, will require that this body of men hitherto called *Democrats*, and unfortunately not likely soon to become extinct, should have a term to designate them. No matter what the dictionary meaning of the word *democracy* may be, its popular meaning has gradually assumed that. *Pharisee, Catholic, Episcopalian* and *Orthodox* were all good words in their

day. In meeting a democrat we expect to meet a timid conservative, shivering in the breaths of public opinion, outspoken and combative upon nothing but nego hate, and denial of the fundamental principles of what is known in books to be *democracy*, as *peculiar to the few* of our constituents. The Egyptians with their despotical boldness strengthened the bonds and bound the chains of the strongest every repeat from heaven, and earth, and water, with a system so vile, never fails to impress with evil plagues and dire ruin proportioned to his wickedness, he went with a beam of destruction the slaveholder from the earth, *see the wedge* and, gave them the property of that earth. Yes, the ears of the Lord of Sabbath heard the cries of laboring bondmen, and by His own Higher Law of Liberty he set them forever free.

S. ROYAL.

For the Portland Inquirer.

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1851.

PLATFORM OF "FREE DEMOCRACY."
ADMITTED AT NEWFIELD—1848.

1. The *True Democracy* is declared a party of freedom, who, forgetting all past political differences, combine against the *expansion of the Slave Power*, and to secure *Free Soil* for Free Men.

2. The two political parties are dissolved by the late National Conventions by the sense of their principles, and their subserviency to the Slave Power, and neither of them can stand any longer, supporting without a sacrifice of consistency, duty and self-respect.

3. The people then assembled, remembering the example of the Republic, putting their trust in God, and in the principles of justice, seeking their guidance, plant themselves upon the *Principles of Freedom* in opposition to the *Sectional Platform of Slavery*.

4. The Slave Power depends upon State laws alone, which the Great Government cannot repeal, and for which it is not responsible. The *True Democracy* affirms that this is a constitutional way of governing, and of their can-

not stand any longer supporting without a sacrifice of consistency, duty and self-respect.

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not stand any longer supporting without a sacrifice of consistency, duty and self-respect.

7. It is the duty of the Government to re-lease itself from all responsibilities for the existence or the extension of slavery.

8. The only safe way of preventing the extension of slavery is to prohibit it.

9. We accept the issue of the Slave Power, *more slaves, and more slave territory, and an increase—NO MORE SLAVES—NO SLAVE TERRITORY*.

10. The late Compromise Bill of the Senate is unconstitutional, a violation of our rights, and the people are warned not to suffer their representatives to betray them. *If any further compromises with slavery are made, THEY MUST BE REPEALED.*

11. We demand Freedom and Free Institutions for Oregon, California, and New Mexico.

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13. On other questions of policy, the following principles are advanced.

(1) *Citizenship for the people.*

(2) *Retrenchment in the expenses and patronage of the government.*

(3) *Abolition of all unnecessary officers and salaries.*

(4) *The election of all civil officers directly by the people.*

(5) *Appropriation for harbour and river improvements.*

(6) *Free grant to ACTUAL SETTLERS, in limited quantities, of the public lands.*

(7) *Free grants adequate to the payment of the public debt, and for the economical expense of the government.*

14. *Resolved*, That we invoke upon our banners the motto—*IN GOD WE TRUST, FREE LABOUR, AND FREE MEN*; and under it will fight on, and fight ever, until a triumphal victory shall reward our exertions.

G. F. T.

For the Portland Inquirer.

FOR THE TRUTH'S SAKE ONLY DO I WRITE.

Rev. J. C. Pennington, D. D., pastor of a Presbyterian church in New York, a year or two since received the title of D. D., at the University at Hildesheim, Germany. He has a high reputation in that country for Europe talents, learning and piety, but he is now a *slave*, and dare not return from Europe to the *Land of the fugitive slave*! There is a fast for American history. It would seem to be for our theologians to come to a piping fit. The people will not sacrifice themselves to believe it. Mr. R. A. states that Mr. Andrews now re-affirms him his former professions of free soil, but we hope he will still lead the friends of freedom to treat them as they deserve. He will protest, and we promise him no serious molestation.

G. F. T.

For the Portland Inquirer.

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Mrs. Birren:—I wish to notice briefly the anonymous article of last week's *Portland Democ.* *Caption—Hard Pressed.* No true language can be employed when applied to the whole cast of Paris Hill, being the very words used to express their distress while tortured by the statements of truth. This nightily party whose name I will not mention at this time, have tested their ability in getting up a few unfounded implications not characterized with truth, and think to pass them as editorial. Pitiful is the D. M.'s that might be named, who can take up this article and say, "I will gladly help at any practicable time to make *better, bolder, and brawier*, but in the name of Heaven's Justice let us try to make *men and women free first*."

The statement is to be done with those genuine

lovers of freedom,

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I suppose the maxim,

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will be applied, and all such behind-the-age

people will be voted out of the new party as

they are to be.

Another statement; I was put up to do what I should not have done if it had not been for some evils arising in a vain imagination growing out of their own corrupt principles.

If the Democrat wishes to talk any

more after this fashion, and will give true names and insert all of my statements, it shall have as much truth as it will like to.

That statement, that the abolition agitation

had well nighed, is no doubt clearly prophetic, indicated plainly by the signs of the times; for as the Hebrew's cry in bondage was soon changed into the triumphant song of liberty in the days of Egypt's fugitive slaves hailing: so doubtless, it will be in these days, while America is closing down the fugitive that is panting for liberty. And then "Balaam's cursing will prove our blessing."

M. VAN BUREN'S LETTER.

We call particular attention to this able, unassuming, accomplished argument. This alone would place the writer among the first class of constitutional lawyers. The "fugitive" from Massachusetts and Mr. B. W. Bullock, and others, forsooth, forget not to bring up the subject again.

It is said that Marshal Devens, who ad-

vised the kidnaping of Sims, has sold \$900 from a large salary to purchase a slave. An attempt doubtless to be society to admit his pretense of decay.

Cotton, freight, and party, would secure them help enough even on that "system." It would be one of the "compromises" without a doubt.

HARD FIX.

The Garrison abolitionists have

applied for Faneuil Hall to hold their annual

meetings.

SOLON ROYAL.

For the Portland Inquirer.

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THE ARGUS AND THE FUGITIVE LAW.

Slavery is the most heathenish system that the sun ever shone upon. It condemns the works and purposes of creation, robbing intelligent beings of every privilege above the animals. The Egyptians with their despotical boldness strengthened the bonds and bound the chains of the strongest every repeat from heaven, and earth, and water, with a system so vile, never fails to impress with evil plagues and dire ruin proportioned to his wickedness, he went with a beam of destruction the slaveholder from the earth, *see the wedge* and, gave them the property of that earth. Yes, the ears of the Lord of Sabbath heard the cries of laboring bondmen, and by His own Higher Law of Liberty he set them forever free.

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TYRANNY AND THE AGE.

THE ARGUS AND THE FUGITIVE LAW.

The Argus has been compelled to attempt a reply of the argument against the fugitive law, notwithstanding all those months have been delightfully "settled" for six months. It confesses to "no pleasure" at such a necessity, but says:

"If it is a wise man, and presents disengaged

and earnest and unequivocal doctrine,

he has a right to his own opinions, and such in-

sincerity will break up the party. We thought

the Age learned some valuable lessons on the

subject in Mr. Hamlin's case, but

we are not sure that the "new test" will be applied to "the fullest ex-

tent to the fullest extent," and that it must

itself submit or be a victim.

But we were to notice its argument against

Mr. Rantoul's speech, which it deems

ineffective to publish and to let the people

repose the want of power in Congress to

act on the subject, that the Argus says was settled

in the *Sectional Platform of Slavery*.

Whether this decision was absurdly eight

years ago is of no practical importance.

Such at all events is the decision of the appointed

judicial interpreter of the federal constitu-

tion, and by all the Congresses and States, as

well as the country at large.

Mr. Rantoul, then, or any body else, to attempt

at this day to raise a grave constitutional ob-

jection to the fugitive law, is to attempt

to overturn the *Constitution* itself.

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Congressional Elections.—It is stated that the 20th of May is appointed for another trial for representatives in Massachusetts, in the 2d, 4th and 7th districts. Palfrey and Rantoul will be elected by the plurality law. That then bring out the old gun for Plymouth Rock and Bunker Hill re-deemed!—**FOR MASSACHUSETTS REDEEMED!**

LATEST FROM THE MARTYR.

The Boston Slave arrived at Swansea in five days with its practical charge. The telegraph says:

"Savannah papers are greatly rejoicing over the return of Sims, the fugitive slave. He was marched in jail, but previously made a speech on the wharf, denouncing the South, and announced that he was more than ever permitted to tread the hospitable ground of Virginia. The Republican says, his master would not allow him to go back to Boston, for my account of Freedom to the interests of Trade!"

OLD PRINCIPLE ALIVE.

It is cheering to see the true spirit alive in New England.

IN FLORIDA OR BRAZIL.—We are requested to say that Mr. Croly & Lewis, of Gloucester (Barnstable) owners in the big Acorn, have given or will give, every good reason to have confidence in the result of their venture, as they say they are not enough in way of capital to make it in the slave trade.—*Commonwealth*.

The same paper contains a letter from an experienced slave dealer in Lynn, also in Boston, No. 18 Blackstone street, Alley, Tapley & Co. in reply to a southern threat of loss of trade. He says:

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PRESERVING THE UNION.

The telegraph says:

"These fugitive slaves, a man, wife and child, were arrested at Charlestown, Mass., on the 2d inst. They were brought before C. S. Commissioner, who furnished the usual certificate, and they were remanded to their owners. There were no slaves in Boston, and no Southern people, but no branch of the peace occurred."

Ensuring a family in Pennsylvania produces no greater general sensation than shipping a cargo of hams.

THE PEOPLE.—The people in the central part of the state are now also absorbed in railroads. Besides the one projected from Augusta to Skowhegan, meetings are held in favor of the construction of the Kennebec road to Bangor, through China and Unity. That may be the better way if the two roads cannot be united at Worcester.

THE BOSTON JOURNAL.—The Boston Journal declines to admit the mendacity of those Boston papers, whose stories it retails, but it is notorious. We see it alluded to in the *Advertiser*, *Independent*, and other papers in different parts of the country. We call on the Journal to state its "best of authority" for saying that the Commonwealth deserves the Sims case "is all fusion." Produce that.

They have commenced lighting the streets of San Francisco. In 1850 California exported to the Sandwich Islands \$305,912.

THE TEA TRADE.—It is stated that the tea is

now being imported in large quantities, and that it will be forced upon the market as tea.

"I shall constantly sustain the most compromise measures enacted by the legislature of the slave-holding states, was one of Buchanan's aids for southern states. He wanted the whole set repealed.

THE CONFEDERACY.—Should experience under the act demonstrate that the liberty of free colored citizens of the north is endangered by the omission of the clause that they should be wrapped in the protection of this privilege to be made to it, again?

How is experience to demonstrate who is free without an adequate trial? Several have already been given up with as strong probability of their freedom as the nature of the case would admit.

THE CONFEDERACY.—The Savannah Republican says of Sims:

"The arrest was effected by policeman Asa O. Butcher, known here as the person who brought back the Lombardo-Venetian prisoners.—He had no warrant at the time, but seized him by the throat and held him until an officer arrived with authority to make the arrest."

He was taken on a charge of theft, the assassin intending by this to gain time to kill him, but he was secured by his friends in the district, and the Egyptian troops under his orders have been massacred. Great preparations are being made to put down the disturbance, but the situation appears to be difficult, from the state of exhaustion of the country, and the difficulties which have arisen with the Porte.

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THOMAS H. BENTON'S OPINION.—The latest account from Shadrack left him in Montréal doing good business as a banker, and happy in his free land.

He had the great pleasure of aiding a noble young man, his accomplished and beautiful wife and little girl, to Canada West, and a letter from them of their arrival, and the unequalled happiness of all but losing in free soil, with none to boast about!

MORE RESPONSES.—We understand that the Admiral from Boston on Sunday morning brought eight or ten colored Refugees to this city, who have come here to get clear of the slave catchers.—*Sgt. John Neary.*

THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.—The miserables of the country to any other object, or who does not give it the supreme place in his life, to pamper him till he can secure him. They escaped justice as it was only for want of better tamer in Sim's knife. It broke.

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If then has crushed a flower,
The root may not be blight ed;
If then has quenched a lamp,
Once more it may be lighted;
But when has then been lost,
The string which then hast broken,
Shall never in sweet sound again
Give to thy touch a token.

If then hast lost a bird,
Whose voice of song could cheer thee,
Still then can be won back;
From the skies where thou didst soar thee;
But if upon the troubled sea;
Then hast thrown a gem, unheeded,
Hope not that the wind or wave shall bring
The treasure back when needed!

If then hast brought a vine,
The sunbeam's breath could heal thee;
And its clusters may grow
Thro' the leaves their bloom revealing;
But if that hap' o'erthrown,
With a curse upon the vine O! never
Shall we earth find that I lavished wealth
To cool thy parched lip's fever!

The heart is like that cup,
It then waste the gold it bore there,
And like jewel gone;
Which the deep will not restore thee;
And like leaf fallen, fast,
Whence the sweet sound is scattered—
Ghoul, on gouty, touch the chords,
So soon forever shattered!

THE GOVERNOR AND THE PRINTER.

A TALE OF TRUTH.

Franklin had just returned from assisting poor Collins to bed, when the Captain of the vessel which had brought him to New York, and had in a very respectful manner put a note into his hand. Ben opened, without much agitation, and read as follows:

"G. Burnett's compliments await young Mr. Franklin, and should be given to him at once. He is anxious to speak with you, and in a very respectful manner put a note into his hand. Ben opened, without much agitation, and read as follows:

"Why, 'tis the Governor," said Ben, "who can be to you?"

"He has a preface against the Captain, and I have just been to see him with some letters I brought for him from Boston; and when I told him what a world of books you have, he expressed curiosity to see you, and begged I would return with you to his palace."

Ben instantly set off with the Captain, but not without a sigh as he cast a look at the door of poor Collins' bed-room, to think what honor that wretched man had for the use of two or three glasses of filthy wine.

The Governor's looks at the approach of Ben, showed somewhat a disappointment. He had, it seems, expected considerable entertainment from Ben's conversation. But his fresh and ready countenance showed him so much younger than he had counted on, that he gave up all promised entertainment as a lost hope. He received Ben, however, with great cordiality, and, after giving him a glass of wine, took him into an adjoining room, which was his library, consisting of a large and well chosen selection.

Seeing the pleasure which sparkled in Ben's eyes, as he surveyed so many elegant authors, and thought of the rich stores of knowledge which they contained, the Governor, with a smile of complacency, as on a young pupil of science, said to him,

"Well, Mr. Franklin, I am told by the Captain, here, that you have a fine collection too!"

"Only a trunk full sir," said Ben.

"A trunk full, sir?" replied the Governor, "why when use can you have for so many books? Young people at your age, have seldom read beyond the tenth chapter of *Nehemiah*."

"I can boast," replied Ben, "of having read a great deal beyond that myself; but still I should be sorry if I could not give a trunk full to read every six months."

"At this, the Governor, regarding him with a look of surprise, said:

"You must then, though so young, be a scholar—perhaps a teacher of the languages?"

"No, sir," replied Ben, "I know no language but my own."

"What, not Latin or Greek?"

"No, sir," and a word of either."

"Why, don't you think them necessary?"

"I don't set myself up as judge—but I should not suppose them necessary."

"Aye? well I should like to hear your reasons?"

"Why, sir, I am not competent to give reasons that may satisfy a gentleman of your learning, but the following are the reasons which I have for supposing that the book on language, &c., merely as arbitrary sounds or characters, whereby men communicate their ideas to each other. Now I already possess a language which is capable of conveying more ideas than I shall ever acquire. Were it not wiser in me to improve my time in sense through that one language, than waste it in getting more sounds through fifty languages, even if I could learn as many?"

"The good Farmer, I am told by the Captain, here, that you have a fine collection too!"

"Only a trunk full sir," said Ben, "as far as I can see, when they maintain opinions that seem to be founded on truth. But when it is not the case, to differ from them I have ever thought my duty; and especially, since I studied Locke."

"Locke!" cried the Governor with surprise, "you studied Locke?"

"Yes, sir, I studied Locke on the Understanding, three years ago, when I was abroad."

"You amaze me, sir. You study Locke on the Understanding at thirteen?"

"Yes, sir, I did."

"Well, and pray at what college did you study Locke at thirteen? For Cambridge college in old England, where I got my education, they never allowed the senior class to look at locks until eighteen."

"Why, sir, it was my misfortune never to be at college or even at grammar school, except nine months when I was a child."

Here the Governor sprang from his sofa, and, starting at Ben, cried out,

"Never at college! well, and where did you get your education, pray?"

"At home, sir, in a tallow chandler's shop."

"In a tallow chandler's shop?" screamed the Governor.

"Yes, sir, my father was a poor old tallow chandler with sixteen children, and I was the youngest of all; at eighteen years of age he put me out to school, but finding he could not spare the time, he sent me to a master, who taught me the rest of my trade, and kept me there, he sent me home in the shop, where I learned my trade by twisting the candle wicks and filling the moulds all day, and at night I read myself. At twelve my father bound me to my brother, a printer, in Boston, and then I worked there all day at the case and press, again ready by myself at night."

Here the Governor snatched his hands together, and put up a loud whine, while a look of wild surprise, rolled about in their sockets as if in a mighty mind to hop out.

"Impossible, young man!" he exclaimed, "impossible, you are only sounding my credulity. I can never believe the one half of this." Then turning to the Captain, he said, "Captain, you are an intelligent man, and from Boston? pray tell me, can you not do better?"

"Very, sir, if I might presume to alter a line in this great poet, I would do it in this way:

"In wisdom admits of want of sense."

"No—indeed!" replied Ben, "Why now to my mind a man can ask no better excuse than that he does wrong than *half sense of sense*."

"How so?"

"Well sir, if I might presume to alter a line in this great poet, I would do it in this way:

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"For want of decency is want of sense."

"I see no fault there."

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